NUMB. LXX.

The GUARDIAN.

Jupiter eſt quodcunque vides — Lucan.

Saturday, May 30. 1713.

I Had this Morning a very valuable and kind Preſent ſent me, of a tranſlated Work of a moſt excellent Foreign Writer, who makes a very conſiderable Figure in the Learned and Chriſtian World. It is Entituled, *A Demonſtration of the Exiſtence, Wiſdom, and Omnipotence of God*, drawn from the Knowledge of Nature, particularly of Man, and fitted to the meaneſt Capacity, by the Archbiſhop of *Cambray*, Author of *Telemachus*, and tranſlated from the *French* by the ſame Hand that *Engliſhed* that excellent Piece. This great Author, in the Writings which he has before produced, has manifeſted an Heart full of virtuous Sentiments, great Benevolence to Mankind, as well as a ſincere and fervent Piety towards his Creator. His Talents and Parts are a very great Good to the World, and it is a pleaſing Thing to behold the polite Arts ſubſervient to Religion, and recommending it from it's natural Beauty. Looking over the Letters of my Correſpondents, I find one which celebrates this Treatiſe, and recommends it to my Readers.

To the GUARDIAN.

SIR,

'I Think I have ſomewhere read, in the Writings 'of one whom I take to be a Friend of yours, 'a Saying which ſtruck me very much, and as I 'remember it was to this Purpoſe: *The Exiſtence 'of a God is ſo far from being a thing that wants to 'be proved, that I think it the only thing of which 'we are certain.* This is a ſprightly and juſt Expreſſion; however, I dare ſay, you will not be 'diſpleaſed that I put you in Mind of ſaying ſomething on the Demonſtration of the Biſhop of '*Cambray*. A Man of his Talents views all things 'in a Light different from that in which ordinary 'Men ſee them, and the devout Diſpoſition of 'his Soul turns all thoſe Talents to the improvement of the Pleaſures of a good Life. 'His Stile cloaths Philoſophy in a Dreſs almoſt 'Poetick, and his Readers enjoy in full Perfection 'the Advantage, while they are reading him, of 'Being what he is. The pleaſing Repreſentation 'of the Animal Powers in the beginning of his 'Work, and his Conſideration of the Nature of 'Man with the Addition of Reaſon, in the ſubſequent Diſcourſe impreſſes upon the Mind 'a ſtrong Satisfaction in it ſelf, and Gratitude 'towards him who beſtowed that Superiority over 'the Brute World. Theſe Thoughts had ſuch 'an Effect upon the Author himſelf, that he has 'ended his Diſcourſe with a Prayer. This Adoration has a Sublimity in it beſitting his Character, 'and the Emotions of his Heart flow from Wiſdom and Knowledge. I thought it would be 'proper for a *Saturday*'s Paper, and have tranſlated 'it to make you a Preſent of it. I have not, as the 'Tranſlator was obliged to do, confined my ſelf 'to an exact Verſion from the Original, but have 'endeavoured to expreſs the Spirit of it, by taking 'the Liberty to render his Thoughts in ſuch a way as 'I ſhould have uttered them, if they had been my 'own. It has been obſerved, that the private Letters 'of great Men are the beſt Pictures of their Souls, 'but certainly their private Devotions would be 'ſtill more inſtructive, and I know not why they 'ſhould not be as curious and entertaining.

'If you inſert this Prayer, I know not but 'I may ſend you, for another Occaſion, one 'uſed by a very great Wit of the laſt Age, 'which has Alluſions to the Errors of a very 'wild Life, and I believe you will think is written 'with an uncommon Spirit. The Perſon whom 'I mean was an excellent Writer, and the Pub-

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(Price Two Pence.)